

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

/GB2004/003676

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 A61B5/15

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 A61B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 324 302 A (CROUSE ROGER L) 28 June 1994 (1994-06-28) column 5, lines 18-61; figures 7,10,11	1-4
A	US 4 527 561 A (BURNS JAMES A) 9 July 1985 (1985-07-09) column 8, line 19 - column 9, line 17; figures 15,17,18	1-9
A	US 6 053 930 A (RUPPERT NORBERT) 25 April 2000 (2000-04-25) column 2, line 40 - column 3, line 22 column 4, lines 39-57; figure 1	1-9
A	US 2002/087180 A1 (CUNNINGHAM RICHARD F ET AL) 4 July 2002 (2002-07-04) paragraphs '0025! - '0028!; figures 7-9	1-9
	-/--	

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the International filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the International filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *8* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

29 November 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

06/12/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Pohjamo, T

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

ational Application No

/GB2004/003676

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	<p>US 6 299 626 B1 (VIRANYI PAUL) 9 October 2001 (2001-10-09) column 3, lines 33-52; figures 4-8 -----</p>	1-9

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

Γ/GB2004/003676

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 5324302	A	28-06-1994	US 5304192 A	19-04-1994
US 4527561	A	09-07-1985	US 4388925 A	21-06-1983
			AU 546436 B2	29-08-1985
			AU 8165782 A	30-09-1982
			BR 8201445 A	01-02-1983
			DE 3267503 D1	02-01-1986
			EP 0061102 A2	29-09-1982
			ES 8307479 A1	01-11-1983
			JP 1577710 C	13-09-1990
			JP 2001494 B	11-01-1990
			JP 57168644 A	18-10-1982
			MX 156584 A	14-09-1988
			NZ 200053 A	03-02-1984
			US 4553541 A	19-11-1985
			US 4535769 A	20-08-1985
US 6053930	A	25-04-2000	NONE	
US 2002087180	A1	04-07-2002	NONE	
US 6299626	B1	09-10-2001	AU 7713598 A	21-12-1998
			DE 69822487 D1	22-04-2004
			EP 1017322 A1	12-07-2000
			WO 9855034 A1	10-12-1998
			ZA 9806020 A	27-01-1999